Educational Therapy and Tutoring: How They Differ

Rocky Mountain Educational Therapy, LLC

	EDUCATIONAL THERAPY	TUTORING
Qualifications and Experience Background	The ET has extensive background with learning disabilities and other forms of learning difficulties, with additional specific training in educational therapy.	This tutor has training in specific academic fields, such as math, history, science, etc. May or may not have experience with learning disabilities.
Assessment	The ET has had training in formal and informal assessment, as well as skill in interpreting and integrating assessment data from a variety of sources.	Not expected to have background in assessment or skill in interpreting and integrating assessment data from a variety of sources.
Domains	Private Practice, Public and Private Schools, Clinics, Hospitals, Learning Centers, Public Agencies	Learning Centers, home office, school
Populations Served	Clients exhibiting a wide range of learning disabilities, including: Learning Disabilities, Dyslexia, Attention Deficit Disorder, Reading and Writing Difficulties, Language Processing Problems, Math Disabilities, Low Motivation Levels, Low Academic Self-Esteem, Poor Social, Organizational and Study Skills. Also may include students needing appropriate school placement or adults needing workplace support.	Students needing support or remediation in specific academic areas.
Design of Treatment Plan	Based on assessed needs, tailored to individual client	Based on specific academic areas and school assignments
Goals of Treatment	Treatment of the "whole client," to include academic as well as social and emotional aspects of learning. Includes: • Identification of client strengths • Demystification of client needs and limitations • Development of effective learning strategies • Application of skills in a variety of settings • Development of "life" strategies • Evaluation of progress • Partnership and collaboration amongst all relevant parties • Determining the need for other specialists if appropriate	Remediation or support in specific subject matter areas
Duration of Treatment	May be long term, depending on needs of client	May be on a short-term or as-need basis
Facilitation of Communication	• Case management approach: Ombudsman • Help all involved to understand strengths, deficits, and learning style of client to insure consistency of approach • Help mediate differing points of view • Help interpret and serve as liaison for family and school or workplace • Negotiate modification of programs where appropriate • Resolve homework issues	Primarily between tutor and parent, student, and school
Essentials of Treatment	• Foster trust, honesty, and mutual respect with client and family • Collaborate to set goals; become a positive role model • Create a safe learning environment for taking risks and learning from mistakes • Foster clear communication regarding grades, problems at school or work • Help parents know what is "normal," provide realistic frame of reference; reintroduce humor when needed • Validate effort; validate reality to avoid "victim" mentality and blaming	Insure that student masters a given body of knowledge or set of skills Insure completion of specific assignments